

REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out what Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, Applicant claims scaling the predetermined portions of a B frame by vertical filtering. Furthermore, Applicant claims a variable length decoding unit that receives a video stream and decodes symbols in the video stream. In addition, Applicant claims a picture layer decoding unit that receives information from the variable length decoding unit. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Objections

Objections to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a)

The Examiner objected to the drawings, stating that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant has amended the claims to reflect the features illustrated in Figure 4.

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 16 and 26 as containing informalities. Applicant has corrected the informalities and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection. Applicant further respectfully submits that no new issues are raised by the corrections.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-4 and 10-13

Claims 1-4 and 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mochida, U.S. Patent No. 6,462,744. Applicant does not admit that Mochida is prior art and reserves the right to swear behind the reference at a later date. Nonetheless,

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-4 and 10-13 is not anticipated by Mochida.

Mochida discloses discarding video macroblocks from buffer memory because the macroblocks are replaced by on screen data (OSD). A data reduction control unit discards the unneeded macroblocks by transferring only the necessary macroblocks from frame storage to the encoded stream buffer. The decoder then decodes the desired macroblocks.

Applicant respectfully submits that Mochida does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed. In independent claims 1 and 10, Applicant claims scaling only the predetermined portions of a B frame by vertical filtering. However, there is no disclosure in Mochida that teaches or suggests scaling the video using a vertical filter. Therefore, Mochida cannot be properly interpreted as anticipating claims 1 and 10 and claims 2-4 and 11-13 that depend from them.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in claims 1-4 and 10-13 is not anticipated by Mochida under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5, 9, 14 and 15

Claims 5, 9, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Mochida in view of Reitmeier, U.S. Patent No. 4,622,577. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination is not properly motivated and furthermore does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 5, 9, 14 and 15.

Reitmeier discloses decoding a multiplexed analog video stream. In particular, Reitmeier discloses displaying a wide aspect ratio analog video stream on a display capable of displaying picture a narrower aspect ratio.

The combination of Mochida and Reitmeier is improperly motivated because Mochida relates to decoding a digital video signal, whereas Reitmeier relates to extracting a picture from an analog video signal. Therefore, one of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine Mochida with Reitmeier because each reference manipulates a vastly different type of video input. Furthermore, due to the fact that each

reference uses vastly different video input, there is no motivation to combine Mochida with Reitmeier because combining would render each reference unsatisfactory for its intended purpose (see MPEP 2143.01).

Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Mochida and Reitmeier does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness because the combination does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 5, 9, 14 and 15.

In claims 9 and 15, the Examiner states that Mochida does not disclose skipping the decoding of the digital video until a left most position of the vertical slice is met and relies on Reitmeier to disclose the missing element. However, because Reitmeier discloses manipulating an analog video signal and not decoding a digital video stream, Reitmeier cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing the missing element claimed in claims 9 and 15.

Furthermore, claims 5 and 14 depend from independent claims 1 and 10, respectively. Because Mochida does not teach or suggest each and every claim limitation of claims 1 and 10, Reitmeier must disclose at the least the missing element from claims 1 and 10 in order to have a proper *prima facie* case for claims 5 and 14. In independent claims 1 and 10, Applicant claims scaling only the predetermined portions of a B frame by vertical filtering. However, because Reitmeier discloses manipulating an analog video signal, Reitmeier does not teach or suggest manipulating digital video. Therefore, Reitmeier cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing scaling only the predetermined portions by using vertical filtering as claimed in claims 1 and 10 and claims 5 and 14 that depend from them. As neither Mochida nor Reitmeier disclose the claimed element, the combination cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing claims 1 and 10 and claims 5 and 14 that depend on them.

Accordingly, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 5, 9, 14 and 15, and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 16, 21, 22 and 25

Claims 16, 21, 22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Mochida in view of Boyce, U.S. Patent No. 5,614,952. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 16, 21, 22 and 25.

Boyce discloses decoding high-definition digital video stream into either a high-definition or standard definition video signal using two decoders. The first decoder produces the high definition video signal, while the second decoder produces the standard definition video signal using information generated by the first decoder. Furthermore, a preparser restricts the data rate of the video stream flowing into the variable length decoder (VLD) unit of the second decoder by discarding high frequency macroblock discrete cosine transform (DCT) coefficients.

In claims 16, 21, 22 and 25, Applicant claims a VLD unit including a skip judge unit that instructs the decoder to skip decoding selected macroblocks. The Examiner asserts Mochida's SD-RAM control unit is a skip judge. However, Mochida's SD-RAM unit transfers selected macroblocks between two buffers whereas Applicant's claimed skip judge instructs the decoder to skip decoding macroblocks. Furthermore, there is no other disclosure in Mochida that teaches or suggests a skip judge unit included within the VLD unit. Therefore, Mochida cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing the skip judge as claimed in claims 16, 21, 22 and 25.

Furthermore, because Boyce discloses discarding part of the macroblock data before reaching the VLD unit, Boyce cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing a VLD unit including skip judge that instructs the decoder to skip decoding selected macroblocks. Therefore, Boyce cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing the element as claimed in claims 16, 21, 22 and 25. Accordingly, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 16, 21, 22 and 25, and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 6, 17-20, 23 and 26-33

Claims 6, 17-20, 23 and 26-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Mochida in view of Reitmeier and Boyce. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Mochida, Reitmeier and Boyce does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness because the combination does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 6, 17-20, 23 and 26-33.

As to claim 6, claim 6 depends from independent claim 1. Because Mochida does not teach or suggest each and every claim limitation of claim 1, Reitmeier or Boyce must disclose the missing element from claim 1 in order to have a *prima facie* case for claim 6. In claim 1, Applicant claims scaling only the predetermined portions of a B frame by vertical filtering. As per above, because Reitmeier discloses manipulating an analog video signal, Reitmeier cannot teach or suggest the missing element. Furthermore, because there is no disclosure in Boyce that teaches or suggests scaling a video frame, Boyce cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing the missing element. As none of Mochida, Reitmeier or Boyce teach or suggest element as claimed in claim 1, the combination cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing claim 1 and claim 6 the depends from it.

Furthermore, claims 17-20 and 23 depend from independent claim 16 and claims 26-33 depend from independent claim 25. In claims 16 and 25, Applicant claims a VLD unit including a skip judge unit that instructs the decoder to skip decoding digital video. Because Mochida and Boyce do not teach or suggest each and every claim limitation of claims 16 and 25, Reitmeier must disclose the missing element from claims 16 and 25 in order to have a *prima facie* case for claims 17-20, 23 and 26-33. However, because Reitmeier does not teach or suggest decoding digital video, Reitmeier cannot teach or suggest the missing element from claims 16 and 25. As none of Mochida, Reitmeier or Boyce teach or suggest this element as claimed in claims 16 and 25, the combination cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing claim 16 and 25 and claims 17-20, 23 and 26-33 the depend from them.

Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 6, 17-20, 23 and 26-33, and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 8, 24 and 34

Claims 8, 24 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Mochida. The Examiner admits that Mochida does not disclose decoding MPEG-2 digital video and takes Official Notice. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully submits that Mochida and Examiner's Official Notice does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 8, 24 and 34. Claims 8, 24 and 34 depend from independent claims 1, 16 and 25, respectively. Because Mochida does not teach or suggest each and every claim limitation of claims 1, 16 and 25, Examiner's Official Notice must disclose the missing element from claims 1, 16 and 25 in order to have a *prima facie* case for claims 8, 24 and 34. However, because Examiner's Official Notice is decoding an MPEG-2 video stream, Examiner's Official Notice does not teach or suggest (1) scaling only the predetermined portions of a B frame by vertical filtering as claimed in claim 1; or (2) a VLD unit including a skip judge unit that instructs the decoder to skip decoding as claimed in claims 16 and 25. As neither Mochida, nor Examiner's Official Notice, teach or suggest these elements as claimed in claims 1, 16 and 25, the combination cannot be interpreted as disclosing claims 1, 16 and 25 and claims 8, 24 and 34 that depend on them. Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 8, 24 and 34, and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-34 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Eric Replogle at (408) 720-8300.

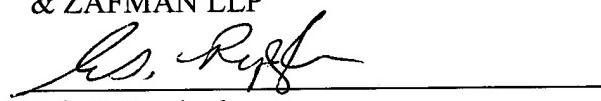
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
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